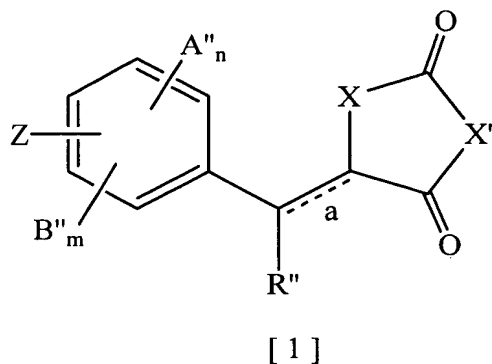


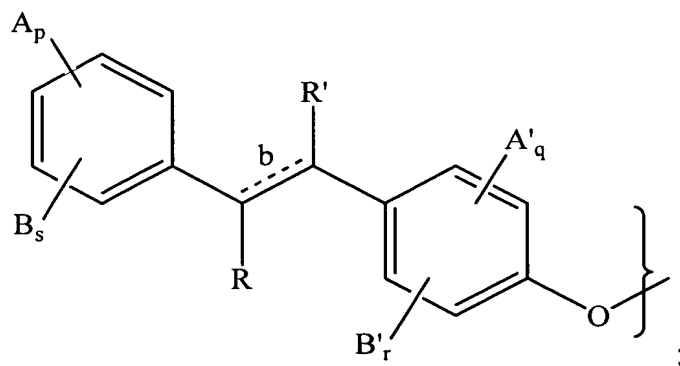
Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following formula 1:



wherein Z is



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; $-OH$; $-OR'''$; $-CONR_2'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

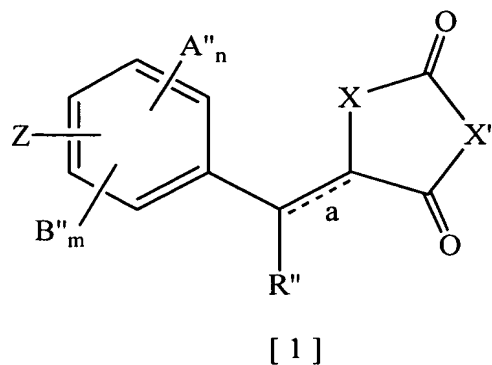
B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

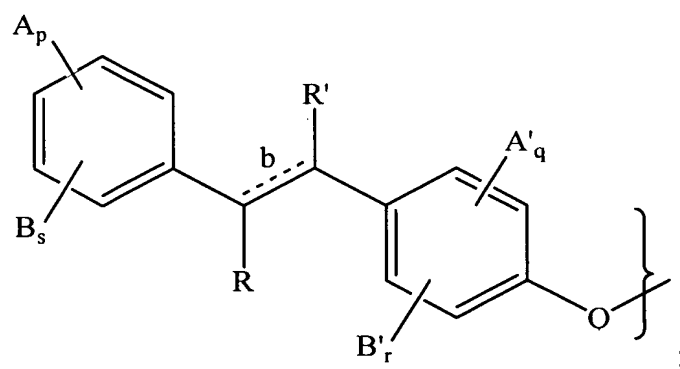
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

2.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following formula 1:



wherein Z is



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}'''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}'''$; $-\text{NR}_2'''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}'''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}'''$; $-\text{NR}_2'''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}'''$;

halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

5.-6. (Cancelled)

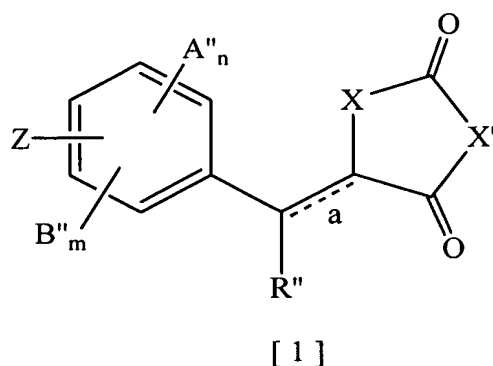
7. (Original) The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid.

8. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide.

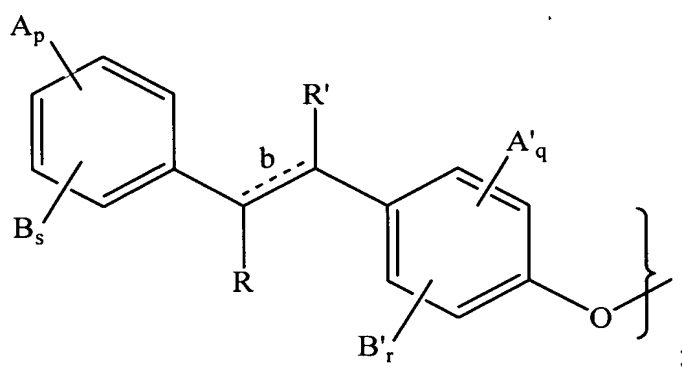
9. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide.

10. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



wherein Z is



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; $-\text{CONR}_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear

or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

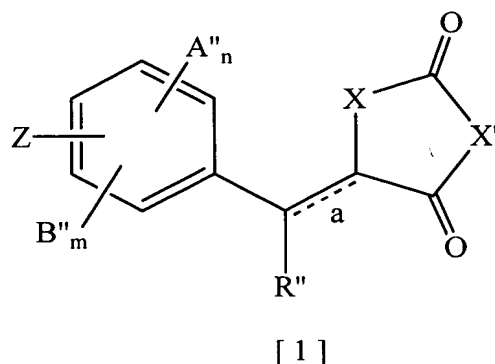
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-; and

- b) a physiologically acceptable carrier .

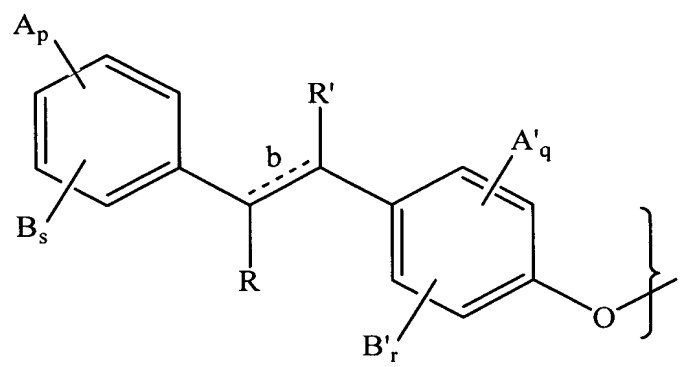
11.-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



wherein Z is



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear

or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-; and

b) a physiologically acceptable carrier.

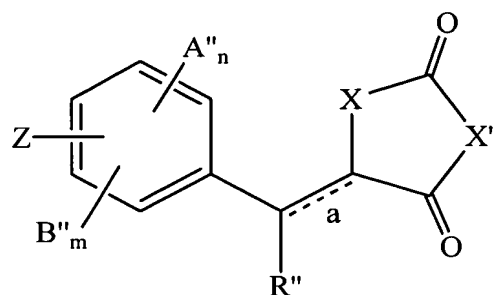
14.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid.

17. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide.

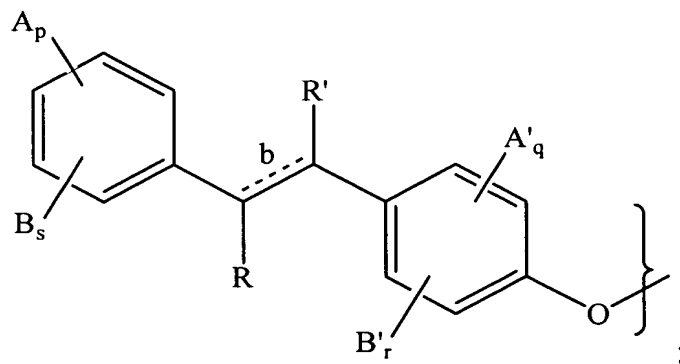
18. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide.

19. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}'''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}'''$; $-\text{NR}_2'''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}'''$; $-\text{CONR}_2'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; methyl; or methoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

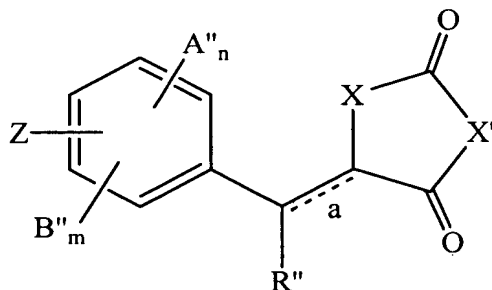
or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

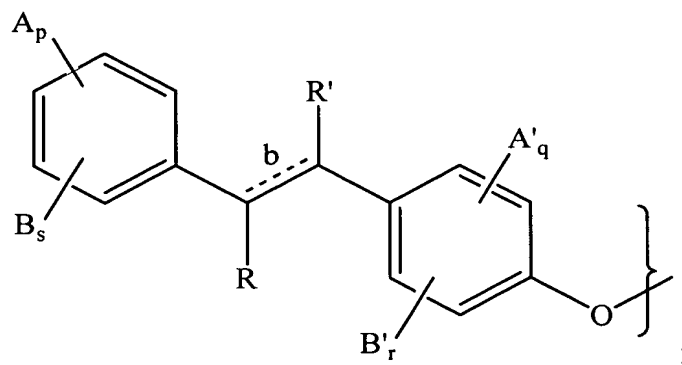
20.-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



wherein Z is



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; $-\text{CONR}_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; methyl; or methoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-; and

b) a physiologically acceptable carrier .

23.-24. (Cancelled)